

# PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the Official Organ of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.

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We invite correspondence, news items, suggestions and criticisms on the subjects of agriculture, poultry raising, stock breeding, dairying, horticulture and gardening; woman's work, literature, or any subject of interest to our lady readers, young people, or the family generally; public matters, current events, political questions and principles, etc.—in short, any subject discussed in an all-round farm and family newspaper. Communications should be free from personalities and party abuse.

## Editorial.

### TO NON-SUBSCRIBERS.

If you are not a subscriber but have received this number of The Progressive Farmer as a sample copy, you should examine it carefully. If you find it what we represent it to be, forward your subscription. Fifty cents will secure the paper for you six whole months, and if at the end of that time, you are not satisfied with the investment, say so and your money will be refunded—provided your sanity is clearly established. Better still, send a dollar and get the paper a full year.

The Christian Endeavor State convention will meet in Winston-Salem April 25. Rev. F. E. Clark, D. D., president of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, will be present and a large attendance of delegates is expected. The programme will be announced soon.

### THE EVIL WILL CONTINUE.

A majority of the State's factory owners having signed a sort of agreement to discourage child labor, it appears that this Legislature will adopt no remedial legislation. The agreement itself is a cowardly makeshift, the most important section being as follows:

"Second, That no child less than 12 years old shall work in a cotton mill during the term of an available public school. Provided: This shall not apply to children of widows or physically disabled parents. Provided further: That 10 years shall be the lowest limit at which children may be worked under any circumstances."

Under this agreement, who is to say whether or not the parent is physically disabled? Who is to say to what extent the parent must be physically disabled before being allowed this privilege? And who will see that the agreement or any part of it is enforced?

And if the mill owners who signed the agreement expect to keep it, why do they oppose a law containing these provisions? It would not injure them, but would compel those who failed to sign to do just what the signers say they propose to do voluntarily.

Under this makeshift agreement, child slavery as heretofore practiced may flourish like the green bay tree.

In our opinion, the factory men have worked an elegant gold brick scheme upon our innocent and gullible Solons.

## THE IMPEACHMENT OF JUDGES FURCHES AND DOUGLAS.

There is no other question in which the people of North Carolina are so deeply interested at this time as that named in the caption of this article. For impeachments are rare in our history, rare in the history of our sister States, and rare in the history of old England, where, we believe, this mode of ousting unworthy officials originated. Only two impeachments have taken place in England within the last hundred years, and not a dozen, perhaps, in the entire history of the United States. The punishment meted out to impeached officials in America is not severe, viewed from one standpoint, yet the fact that the Court of Impeachment is supposed to sit only when there is strong evidence of corruption in high places, or when by the acts of high officials the people's rights and liberties have been endangered, and that there is no appeal or review of its decisions, invests it and its findings with solemnity and sacredness, and fastens a stigma upon those whom it finds guilty for more dreadful than simple physical suffering.

So far as we know, only one official has been impeached in North Carolina since Revolutionary days. Thirty years ago Gov. Holden was impeached and deprived of his office and of the right to hold any State office thereafter. The interest of the people of North Carolina, therefore, in these novel proceedings is quite natural, and they are seeking light upon all possible phases of the subject. Hence, we have thought it proper to give a very brief account the lives of these men and to state briefly the nature of their alleged "crimes and misdemeanors in office."

Hon. David M. Furches, now Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, is a native of Davie county, and may now be called an old man, being in his sixty-ninth year. Judge Furches was a candidate for Supreme Court Judge in 1888 and was the Republican candidate for Governor in 1892. For some years he has resided at Statesville, N. C. He was elected Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in 1894, and only a few weeks ago was appointed Chief Justice to succeed the late William T. Faircloth.

Hon. Robert M. Douglas, Associate Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, is a son of Lincoln's great antagonist, Stephen A. Douglas, "the Little Giant of the West." Judge Douglas was born in Rockingham county, N. C., Jan. 28, 1849. He graduated with high honors at Georgetown University in 1867. Before attaining his majority, he was appointed Private Secretary to President Grant, which position he occupied throughout Grant's first term (1869-73). He has since been prominent in Republican politics in North Carolina and was elected Associate Justice in 1896. His home is in Greensboro.

The late William T. Faircloth, a sketch of whose life recently appeared in The Progressive Farmer, joined with Judges Furches and Douglas in the acts for which they have been impeached. He was a man of known integrity and lived a long life of honor and usefulness.

Both Judges Furches and Douglas have been strong partisans in private life, but their bitterest opponents have been able to bring no charges against the personal character of either.

And what are the charges against the accused Judges? Briefly stated they are as follows—the language being that of the Charlotte Observer:

"Theophilus White held the office of shell fish commissioner. The Legislature of 1899 undertook to abolish him, and in a supplemental act forbade the Treasurer of the State to pay 'any compensation to any person or persons claiming the same for services rendered concerning the shell fish industry unless such person or persons are authorized to render such services under the provisions of the said act'—referring to the act abolishing White's office and creating instead of it a shell fish commission composed of seven members. This was for the purpose of depriving White of his salary, and he brought suit in the Superior Court—not against the State, which he could not do, but against the Treasurer, who was the custodian of the funds arising from the supervision of the shell fish industry and out of which funds the expenses of the supervision were payable. Judge Starbuck, of the Superior Court, ordered a mandamus to issue against the Treasurer, com-

PELLING him to pay the amount claimed—a little over \$800—and the case went to the Supreme Court on appeal. That court decided the case in accordance with the decision in Hoke vs. Henderson, in which it is held that office is property, and ordered a mandamus to issue upon the Treasurer. Chief Justice Faircloth and Justices Furches and Douglas concurred in this action. For ordering the issuance of this mandamus Judges Furches and Douglas are now impeached and Judge Faircloth would be if he had not died."

This is a brief outline of the case, the trial of which has now begun. In our next issue the matter will be treated at greater length.

### THIS WEEK'S PAPER.

Director R. J. Redding of the Georgia Experiment Station is an authority upon most matters affecting Southern agriculture, and we are sure our readers will find his "Fertilizer Formulas" valuable. It was through Director Redding's assistance that we were enabled to better expose the great "Limbless Cotton" humbug, at the time that so many of our farmers were being duped by agents of the fraud.

Agricola, of Halifax county, discusses a number of vital questions. Whether or not you agree with him throughout, you will find his views suggestive. Messrs. Smith, Moore and Harry Farmer also have letters that you cannot afford to miss reading. The last paragraph of Harry Farmer's letter strikes the bull's eye exactly; paste it in your hat.

And about poultry: read the item from the Rocky Mount Motor on page 1 and the article from the Lima Times-Democrat on page 8. Then put into practice the suggestions made by Corresponding Editor Irby on this page. To do so means money in your pocket.

Our fourth and fifth pages contain selections well worth reading—and thinking about. Still we should prefer to have columns 4, 5 and 6 of page 4 filled with articles from contributors to Social Chat. Where are its members? The sketch of Queen Victoria is one of the best we have seen; we are sure our lady readers will also be interested in the articles on vines and climbers, which ought to be more generally grown. And the question, Who are North Carolina's twelve greatest men?" is one that ought to provoke further discussion.

In our news columns the reader will find the usual record of State and general news. The great educational conference to be held in Winston next month has not attracted the attention among our people that its importance deserves. The record of the Fifty-Sixth Congress is carefully reviewed. Many of the important acts of the session just ended may have slipped your memory; you will find our summing up well worth its space. The failure of Round Bale Seales is also a matter of interest to farmers.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mecklenburg, always in the lead in the good roads movement, is now to give the wide-tire a thorough test.

The impeachment trial began yesterday (Monday) at noon. Judge Allen made the opening speech for the prosecution.

The dairymen have no idea of giving up the fight for the Groat bill. Secretary Knight's article on this subject deserves the careful consideration of all that make butter. Many sections of North Carolina and adjoining States are admirably adapted to dairying, but the industry cannot be expected to grow so long as the oleo fraud is allowed to flourish unmolested.

We have given more attention to our Legislative summary than to any other feature of this number. In our effort to do that subject justice, the editorial page has been somewhat neglected. But the Legislature is now doing most important work and we believe a carefully condensed record of its proceedings will be of more interest to the reading public than our views of affairs in general.

If the heads of a half-dozen State institutions can, by a little persistent lobbying, secure increased appropriations aggregating many thousands of dollars, must the Baptist State Convention, the two Methodist Conferences, the Presbyterian Synod, the North Carolina Press Association, etc., etc., petition in vain for only \$25,000 to establish a Reformatory for youthful criminals and maintain the same for two years?

## THE RESIGNATION OF DR. ROSS.

Progressive Farmer readers remember the recent forced withdrawal of Prof. E. A. Ross, one of the oldest and most highly esteemed instructors in Leland Stanford Jr. University, some of his independent utterances in regard to great combinations of capital having displeased the millionaire "philanthropist" who supports that institution. Until now, however, we have not mentioned the sympathetic resignation of three other professors in that institution. One of these was Dr. G. E. Howard, of whom Collier's Weekly says:

"Among the most ardent partisans of Dr. Ross in the faculty was Dr. George Edward Howard, the head of the History Department, an old friend of Dr. Jordan and the first professor appointed to the university. In an address before one of his classes, Dr. Howard declared that Dr. Ross was a martyr to principle and that in his retirement a serious blow had been struck at the freedom of speech. In concluding he uttered the following words: 'I do not bow down to Saint Market street. I do not doff my hat to the Chinese Six Companies. Neither am I afraid of the Holy Standard Oil.'"

Dr. Howard's remarks were allowed to pass unnoticed at the time by President Jordan. A few days ago President Jordan wrote a letter to Dr. Howard, in which he stated that he had waited a reasonable time in the hope that reflection would enable Dr. Howard to see that some explanation and an apology were desirable. Failing to hear from him, he deemed it his duty to request from him a suitable apology and the assurance of an attitude toward the university that would guarantee a proper harmonious relation in the future. Dr. Howard replied that he had no apology to offer, that what he had said was said, as he believed, for individual justice and academic liberty. He also called Dr. Jordan's attention to a conversation which he had had with him after the Ross incident, in which Dr. Jordan had asked him to remain in the university and had stated that he would not ask for his resignation unless Mrs. Stanford demanded it.

"To this Dr. Jordan replied with a peremptory demand for Dr. Howard's resignation. It was as promptly tendered."

We have long held that the college that does most for the development of manhood and the spread of Christianity is the one supported by a sturdy and independent people, the masses of some church or State, rather than the one endowed by a few money kings and whose students must accept the charity(?) of monopolistic "philanthropists."

The recent troubles at Leland Stanford Jr. have only strengthened the opinion above expressed.

### USE OF ANIMAL BODIES AS MANURE.

A Pender county farmer writes as follows:

"I have a question of importance I would like you to answer for me. I have six horses that were burned in November, 1899, composted with ditch bank and cane stalks of that year, also two cows added in summer of 1900. Now I desire to use this under cotton this spring on old close up land, clay subsoil, no sand. The point I want to know now is, what must I add to this to get the very best results, and how to mix and use? Also state nearest home market for ingredients, price of same, and any other information you can give will be highly appreciated."

"I am glad we have such a great helper to our farmers as The Progressive Farmer is proving to be."

W. E. T. has a question of real importance to all farmers. There is no farm but that has sooner or later to sustain some loss from death of farm animals. Such cannot be turned to account, unless a cheap way to disinfect and reduce the bodies to suitable condition for manure is employed. How to proceed and use all such matter, except perhaps the bodies which are highly contagious, has been a topic about which we have looked for data for some time. The bodies of animals which have died of contagious diseases should undoubtedly be burned. The ashes may be used, but unless digested with chemicals and treated with strong disinfectants, such should only be treated by fire.

But our correspondent has a number of bodies in compost. If he has divided these and mixed lime with the parts as put into the compost, then covered well with soil, he may expect to have retained nearly all of

the manurial elements. There may have been some light losses of nitrogen, but of no other constituents. This compost contains then the total quantities of phosphoric acid, potash and nitrogen put in minus what nitrogen has been lost by changes in the pile and plus whatever of nitrogen has been gained by nitrification. This in a well-kept compost heap may largely exceed any losses from the other action, for the reason that the well-kept, moist and carefully tended pile would have been held under gaining rather than losing conditions, and may be expected to be worth as much or more, as all the materials put into the compost. It would not be hard for W. E. T. to estimate the aggregate value if he has kept any account at all accurately as to what has been used with the bodies in the compost pile. He can estimate the weight of the animals and count on their content of the following per centages:

Bodies of cattle based on live weight: Lime 2.08 %, nitrogen 2.66 %, potash 0.17 %, phosphoric acid 1.86 %.

In absence of more accurate figures use the same factors for the horse flesh put into the compost.

In handling this if it is dry and fine it may be mixed well with the soil with which it was covered and the bones which will break down readily should be well mixed throughout the pile. If moist or pasty, ditch bank dirt may be added until it can be handled without sticking. Bones which will not crumble down may be returned to a compost in the same place which shall consist of bones and wood ashes. This should be on a watertight bed and be moistened so the lye of the ashes may have a chance to reduce the bones. When this is accomplished this compost may be dried with ditch bank dirt and used just as it goes out.

The compost of bodies, cane stalks and ditch bank soil is a complete manure of low grade. If the bones are nearly all included it is better than if there are many of them left over for a second trial. If W. E. T. desires to raise the grade and mix chemicals with this compost, he can do so, but if he thinks the work will be increased by so doing, we would advise that he apply the compost and chemicals separately. If, however, he can put in chemicals at little or no extra expense when handling over the pile, being sure they are intimately mixed, that will be a good time to put them in and the one application to the soil will take more time because of the chemicals, which will be well distributed with the compost.

We would, if desiring to make a high grade manure out of this compost as a base and chemicals to be added, mix with every 1,500 pounds of compost 1,200 pounds of acid phosphate and three hundred pounds of muriate of potash or potassium chloride. These chemicals may be purchased in Richmond, Norfolk, or Baltimore, but should be found cheaper freights considered at Wilmington, N. C.

It would increase the value and push the crops to larger growth to reduce acid phosphate from 1,200 to 1,000 pounds and use 200 pounds of cotton seed meal. The compost thus becomes an aid and vehicle for the dilution and mixing of the chemicals. This may be used in drills at the rate of 400 to 800 or 1,000 pounds per acre, or it may be broadcast in about the same amounts. The amount to use would depend on what fertility is considered to be in the land before this application is made and enough of this added to produce the yield of crop desired. Then this should be supported by a system of cultivation which will keep the soil moisture from too great loss in dry weather since the crop often depends more on the water supply than on the manures applied and the proper cultivation is the water conserver.

F. E. E.

Fiction readers will turn, first, in the March Century, to the opening pages of a new story by Irving Bacheller, author of the record-breaking "Eben Holden." The title is "D'ri and I," the general theme is American border life at the time of the war of 1812, and the leading characters are Col. Rayman Bell, U. S. A., a Southerner, and Darius, a typical Yankee. Continuing his Webster series, Prof. McMaster considers this month his hero's experience as a leader of the opposition in Congress.

The Progressive Farmer gets better with every number.—H. M. Cates, Alamance Co., N. C.

## THE POSSIBILITIES OF POULTRY RAISING IN NORTH CAROLINA.

When we consider the enormous value of poultry produced in the United States, the hundreds of millions of dollars stagger our imagination. What part of this amount does our State produce? Only a very small part of what she should furnish.

This State is well adapted to the poultry business. We not only have the natural advantages, but we have fine railroad connections with the larger cities of the North. A few hours' journey will put them on the market by express from most any part of the State. The fast freight will carry them much cheaper and delay delivery only a short time.

The more civilized a people become, the more poultry they use. Hence we can look for better prices in the future. There is a fortune for those farmers who are progressive and start now to raising poultry to furnish the State with breeding stock.

If a thousand men would engage in raising breeding stock they would not overstock the market.

The common chicken is very fine, but anybody can readily see that the demand for a larger and quicker-maturing chicken is growing. Then instead of keeping hens that lay from 60 to 75 eggs per year, they will buy those that lay double that number and over.

When we go into the business on a large scale and can furnish eggs and broilers by the thousands we can expect fancy prices. This State should equal Missouri in poultry production as our conditions are much more favorable, and we have a better market.

These thoughts are suggested by an interesting article, "The Hen as a Factor," which appears on page 5 of this week's Progressive Farmer.

Why cannot some of our wealthy farmers follow the example of the poultryman of Sidney, Ohio? It is only a question of time when we will be into the business on a grand scale and fortunate will the man be who starts early.

B. I.

### AS WE GO TO PRESS.

Our report of Saturday's Legislative proceedings is crowded out of this issue. Important work was done. Bills passed both Houses providing for permanent registration of white voters under the grandfather clause. The Senate passed the judicial apportionment bill, the bill appropriating \$200,000 for the public schools, and the one giving the Board of Agriculture control of the A. and M. College. The two last named measures are now laws.

Silas Martindale, a white man charged with rape, was lynched in Carthage a few days ago.

Secretary George B. Hiss, of the Southern Cotton Spinners' Association, has informed the president of that association that 65 cotton mills in the South have sent in their approval of the curtailment of yarns, as agreed upon in the meeting held in Charlotte on February 16, and that these mills represent 380,000 spindles.

The metropolitan press tells with more or less circumstantiality—The New York Tribune with startling plainness—that the adoption by the Senate of the Republican policy as to Cuba and the Philippines was the result of a bargain. The story is that liberal appropriations were made to the South and West in the river and harbor bill "in return for the Democratic 'lay down' in the Senate on the Philippine and Cuban propositions;" that Tillman of South Carolina was "soothed into silence" by the Charleston Exposition appropriation of \$250,000, and that Cockerell of Missouri, "the erstwhile 'watch-dog of the Treasury,'" was won over by the gift of \$5,000,000 to the St. Louis fair. This is a scandalous story and needs verification, though The New York Post says that "now that the bargain has been carried through, there is perfect frankness about" its terms. If the facts are as stated it develops that Cockerell is the only one of the negotiators who received his price. The amendment to the sundry civil bill giving \$5,000,000 to the St. Louis Exposition was adopted. The Charleston Exposition item and the river and harbor bill failed at the last moment.—Charlotte Observer.

I like The Progressive Farmer the best of all the papers I get. It gives us more of farming and less of party politics that neither feed nor clothe us.—R. W. Fitch, Alamance Co., N. C.